

Interior Tribal Self-Governance Act, as well as related legislation to restore the integrity of government-to-government relationships and promote opportunities for tribal self-determination. I believe that we should support tribal governments to find ways to best serve their communities and protect their heritage.

CONGRATULATING FRENCH ROAD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate French Road Elementary School in Brighton, New York for recently earning its designation as a 2011 National Blue Ribbon School. The United States Department of Education grants this prestigious award to schools demonstrating a high level of academic excellence or where the achievement gap is shrinking. Secretary Arne Duncan describes National Blue Ribbon Schools as those, "committed to accelerating student achievement and preparing students for success in college and careers."

As one of only 315 schools across the nation to earn this honor, French Road Elementary School embodies the standard of excellence this award celebrates and is an example for others to emulate.

While nothing should diminish the hard work and talents of French Road Elementary School's individual teachers and students, Superintendent Dr. Kevin McGowan accurately stated that this honor reflects, "the support of an incredible school community."

Community is a central component of French Road Elementary School. Its students are not only encouraged to succeed academically but to be constructive members of their communities. In an era where school bullying is far too prevalent, French Road students start their day by reciting the school's Purple Hand Pledge. It reads, "I will not use my hands or my words for hurting myself or others." It is a simple message that should be emphasized more throughout school communities around the country.

Articulating the school's underlying values, this pledge has helped to foster the strong sense of community found among these third, fourth and fifth graders.

For instance, when entering French Road's courtyard you will find students working side by side in the school's community garden to grow healthy, pesticide-free vegetables for each other's enjoyment and to supplement the cafeteria menu.

However, their sense of community extends beyond their school yard, classmates and immediate neighbors. Over the past 30 years, French Road students have raised \$1,265,000 through the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart Event, to benefit children across the country with cardiac abnormalities. During the 2010 to 2011 school year, these young philanthropists raised \$75,489.29; \$20,000 more than any other school nationwide. They have been the event's number one fundraiser for the past 12 years.

The administrators, teachers, parents and students of French Road Elementary School form a truly remarkable community deserving

of this Blue Ribbon recognition. Its students move on with the necessary foundation to accomplish many great things, as well as the desire to leave their communities better than they found them.

Mr. Speaker, I could not be more proud to recognize this school in the United States House of Representatives and hope to help others follow in its footsteps.

REMEMBERING HAL BRUNO

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor Hal Bruno, who recently passed on November 8th. Hal Bruno will be remembered as a man of service to his country. Having served as an Army intelligence officer, a volunteer firefighter and the director of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF), he put service to others first and foremost. For over 60 years Hal was an active member of the fire service community, whether it was on the ground as a first responder, in the halls of Congress working to improve resources for families of fallen firefighters, or on the public stage advocating for ways to improve fire safety to reduce line of duty deaths and injuries.

Appointed as chairman of the NFFF in 1999, he received numerous awards and recognition for his dedication and commitment. This fall, he was awarded the National Fire & Emergency Services Hall of Legends, Legacies and Leaders Award. In 2008, the Congressional Fire Services Institute selected him as the recipient of the CFSI / Motorola Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award and in 1999 he received the "President's Award" from the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He was also named "Fire Service Person of the Year" by the Congressional Fire Services Institute in 1995.

Hal also had a prestigious career as the longtime ABC News Political Director. Known for his journalistic integrity and pioneering spirit, he represented the reason the news media is sometimes referred to as the 'fourth branch of government.'

As a Co-Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I know Hal Bruno will be greatly missed by the fire service community and by the many others he touched.

EDEN PRAIRIE EAGLES WIN 7TH
STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, in my hometown of Eden Prairie, we take high school football seriously, which is why I am so honored to congratulate the Eden Prairie Boys Football Team on winning their seventh Minnesota State Championship title on Friday evening.

The Eden Prairie Eagles faced their conference rivals, the Wayzata Trojans, at the Metrodome in Minneapolis. It was a game that

was dominated not by either side's offensive line, but by both team's disciplined defense as both sides found it difficult to rack up points throughout a majority of the game.

Late in the fourth quarter, with Eden Prairie up 6-3, the Eagles scored the game's only touchdown. At fourth and fourteen, the Eagles used a reverse flea flicker to make a 25 yard gain, bringing them within five yards of a touchdown. With three minutes left in the game, running back Andrew Larson fought his way into the end zone.

To all the student athletes on the Eden Prairie football team, and to Coach Grant and his coaching staff, I want to say "job well done."

2011 EMISSARIES OF MEMPHIS
MUSIC

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Tennessee is the home to country music and the blues. Music is in the very fiber of our being, and we are proud to continually showcase the thousands of singers, songwriters, performers, producers, and music industry professionals that call Tennessee "home." I rise today to honor eight such professionals whose talents have made Memphis' musical heritage the soundtrack of America.

Barbara Blue, Dani, Lil Rounds, Dawn Hopkins, Valerie June, Amy LaVere, Sheri Jones Moffett, and JoJo Jefferies were named recently as the 2011 Emissaries of Memphis Music. Honored for their contributions to the culture of music that is uniquely Tennessean and uniquely American, these eight women are deserving of praise. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the Emissaries of Memphis Music and thank all of those who add their distinct notes to the musical history of Tennessee.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 860, due to family health issues, I was unable to make the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO BERNARD "C.B."
KIMMINS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hero, Bernard "C.B." Kimmins. For over 44 years, Mr. Kimmins has been a committed volunteer, leader, and teacher throughout Philadelphia. He is a man of great courage and a true friend of mine.

Born in Atlantic City, New Jersey on February 13, 1944, Mr. Kimmins lived most of his